IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:

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Serial No.: Unknown

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For: MOULDING MATERIAL

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)

Box Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97-1.98, the references listed and identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB08A and B are being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner. This Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1).

While this Statement is being filed in compliance with the duty of disclosure, citation of the attached references is not to be construed as an admission that any of the references are "material" as defined under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Regarding the non-English documents, each document is described in the enclosed Written Opinion, and the additional comments are provided below regarding the Applicants understanding of the relevance of such non-English references.

EP-A-0 224 064 (D1) - This document relates to a method of fabricating composite parts from a separate layer of thermoplastic material pre-shaped in the form of the article to be moulded and separate pre-shaped fibrous layers which are pressed together and heated in a mould so that the thermoplastic material is absorbed into the fibrous material and the composite part is formed and cured (column 1, lines 47-50; column 2, lines 14-20). Thus the resin layer and the fibrous layers are pre-shaped separately before these layers are located

in the mould. Figure 2 of D1 shows the pre-shaped resin layer and fibrous layers which are individually applied in the mould.

DE 35 36 272 (D2) - This document describes a method of fabricating a composite part from a moulding material which consists of a layer of resin material pre-shaped in the form of the mould which is covered by dry fibrous layers (claim 1). In an embodiment, the moulding material is formed to an approximate shape which corresponds to the shape of the mould before it is applied in the mould (column 3, lines 14-20; combined claims 1, 3 and 4 of D2). Figure 3b of D2 relates to the pre-shaped resin layer onto which the fibrous material is applied to form a pre-shaped moulding material.

DE 32 43 925 (D5) - This document relates to a method of producing a laminate material comprising the step of compressing a film of a thermoplastic polymer material between glass fibrous layers (page 4, lines 9-11 of D5). The fibrous layers are pressed onto the resin layer to form a prepreg in two steps under pressure at temperatures of 150°C and 180°C (page 5, lines 4-6 of D5). This causes impregnation of the resin into the fibrous layers.

A copy of each reference listed on the attached Forms PTO/SB08A and B is included herewith. Consideration and entry into the record of these references is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____

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